

# TALON

**Operation Joint Forge**

**Task Force Eagle**

**Saturday, June 24, 2000**

## **3RD ACR** **CHANGING OF THE GUARD**

**Steps of Hope**  
**Local school helps  
children with disabilities**

**Falling Plate 2000**  
**Marksmanship competition**

**Emergency!**  
**Dobol EMT class prepares  
soldiers for anything**

# THE ABC'S FOR DAILY SUCCESS

Arrive a little early for every date or appointment.

Be enthusiastic in everything you do.

Complete every assigned task.

Do a little bit more than is required.

Express yourself after you know the facts.

Feel comfortable in every situation by acting yourself.

Go all out to please your friends.

Help your enemies.

Identify yourself by accomplishment rather than words.

Join in and help when you are needed.

Keep your head; it may save you your hide.

Listen with your ears, not your mouth.

Make do with what you have.

Never say never.

Open your heart to those less fortunate than yourself.

Please yourself by pleasing others.

Quickly respond to an emergency.

Remember the spirit of giving-especially in the current month.

Study, study, study to excel.

Take advantage of opportunity.

Use spare time intelligently.

Value your health.

Work at your work.

X-out any qualities that could lead to failure.

You are your most important asset. Treat yourself well physically and emotionally.

Zestfully meet any challenge.

**In order to be successful, we must keep the balance as we meet the challenge.**

—by Chaplain (Col.) Charles W. Edwards, Jr.  
Multinational Division-North/Task Force Eagle Chaplain

## THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

TODAY — “To desire is to obtain, to aspire is to achieve.”

SUNDAY — “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”

MONDAY — “Where there is an open mind, there will always be a frontier.”

TUESDAY — “The rewards for those who persevere far exceed the pain that must precede the victory.”

WEDNESDAY — “Don’t let a little dispute injure a great friendship.”

THURSDAY — “The lure of the distant and the difficult is deceptive. The great opportunity is where you are.”

FRIDAY — “The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today.”

U. S. Army Photo by Spc. Shane P. Devine, 65th PCH, Eagle Base

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Another milestone in the long and proud tradition of the 3rd ACR, as the 68th Colonel, Christopher L. Baggott hands the reigns of command to the 69th Colonel, Anthony W. Harriman. (U. S. Army Photo by Maj. Ronald J. Elliott, 49th AD PAO)

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## Helping Hearts, Helping Hands

Local soldiers support the children of "Steps of Hope," a school for disabled children, as they build friendships and foster peace.

5



## All's Fair In Love and War

SFOR peacekeeping forces experienced a day of healthy competition, camaraderie and cross-group awareness, as they participated in the Falling Plate 2000 rifle competition.

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!

by Maj. Gen. Robert L. Halverson  
*Commander, MND-N*

Last week we celebrated the Army's 225th birthday. I sent a letter for the occasion to Army Chief of Staff General Eric Shinseki, expressing my sincere pride in leading this task force, and the great soldiers that are its heart and soul. I want to share this letter with you all to express to you the pride that I feel every day as the leader of this mission.

"As we celebrate the 225th birthday of our Army and the first Army birthday of this century, I want to send a very special birthday greeting from all of us serving on point at Task Force Eagle. It is indeed an honor for me to celebrate this momentous occasion as the commander of Multinational Division-North.

Our forces here are the embodiment of your focus: "The Army, totally integrated into a oneness of purpose." In all our efforts, one constant that I have observed is the quality of The Army Team—Active, National Guard and Reserve soldiers. We are working together as one answering our nation's call.

America's Army continues to be a key player in our nation's



Maj. Gen. Robert L. Halverson

efforts to help shape the international security environment. You, and the entire nation can be proud of the achievements of these men and women serving here in Bosnia and the numerous other locations throughout the world.

Our Army has encountered countless challenges during the past 225 years, from civil wars to world wars and from peacekeeping to humanitarian assistance. However, we have always risen to meet these challenges remaining ever faithful to our core values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage. These values have been and always will be the foundation on which we base our conduct and by which we live.

I am proud to have served for over 36 years in this great institution with such outstanding, professional soldiers. Our Army, without a doubt, is the best Army in the world and I join with all my soldiers in saying "Happy Birthday."

I sent this letter in your names, and I want to thank you for all of your efforts that allow me the opportunity to take such pride in this mission, and in the progress we see every day. Lone Star!

## PASS WITH CARE

Story and photo  
by CW4 Scott M. Dillon  
*Safety Office, Eagle Base*

A typical scenario: a convoy is moving along a Bosnian roadway. They approach a slow moving vehicle. The first vehicle passes, then the second. As the third vehicle begins to pass, an oncoming vehicle approaches, and before you know it, there is a collision.

You would think that this doesn't happen very often, but think again. Of the 68 vehicle accidents that we have had, 26 have been while a vehicle is passing a moving or stopped vehicle. That is nearly 40 percent of all vehicle accidents!

Usually one or more factors is also involved, passing on a hill or corner, traveling too fast for conditions, or misjudging clearance.

We need to remember that while passing, we are in the danger zone — a place where you have a much greater chance of being hurt.

To minimize your chances of an accident, you can take the following actions:

- Don't tailgate the vehicle to be passed. It might stop suddenly.
- Don't pass on curves.
- Use communication between vehicles to announce when to pass.



ON YOUR LEFT—A military convoy safely passes along a Bosnian road.

—Pay attention to other vehicles, and the vehicle being passed. You never know what the other driver will do.

Remember that it's not a race out there.

You need to constantly be aware of the situation and adjust your speed and following distance accordingly. But most of all don't take unnecessary risks!



# TINY STEPS OF HOPE

**Story and photos  
by Spc Stephanie L. Bunting**  
*65th PCH, Camp Comanche*

**W**ith so many missions and other job oriented tasks keeping soldiers busy, there seems little time to get out and see the sights. However, there was a trip recently that took volunteers to see a special needs school by the name of "Steps of Hope."

"Steps of Hope" is a school where children with cerebral palsy, Down's Syndrome and other physical and mental handicaps receive help. Help comes in forms of volunteers giving time and donations. When Sgt. 1st Class Willie M. Williams with Company A, 249th Signal Battalion, 49th Armored Division, inquired about helping out in the local community, "Steps of Hope" was brought to his attention.

The school receives donations, mostly of educational toys that help children with learning disabilities.

These donations to the school will help some 200 children. Not all of the students go to "Steps of Hope" or other affiliated schools. Some teachers drive to the children's homes and provide for their needs. Most of this is due to the lack of transportation or the means to get to the school.

This would mean a continuous need for additional support from outside sources. "This is the largest number of people we have taken to the school so far," said Williams.

The soldiers are from various organizations, including 249th Signal Battalion and Headquarters and Headquarters Troop (HHT), Support Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (ACR) out of Camp Comanche.

"Basically what they are doing today is to see what we're (supporting)," said Williams. "They can take (information) back to their units and (hopefully) have more volunteers help out and show the children that they are loved and worth our support despite their disabilities."

In September, a new group of soldiers will come in and replace the 249th Signal Battalion. Williams hopes the new group coming in will want to continue to keep up with the challenge of supporting the children of "Steps of Hope." He hopes that getting the replacements involved early will allow them to keep it an ongoing mission.

The trip to the school was the very first opportunity some of the soldiers had to get outside the wire.

"It was the first time most of the soldiers volunteered their time to visit and do

anything like this. Some even hope to do the same thing when they get back home," said Williams.

The coordinator of the school, Professor Ajsa Mahmutagic, was trying to improve the education for the kids who have special needs. Mahmutagic said, "on be-



**PLAYMATES—Spc. Randall T. Prowell, HHT, Support Squadron, 3rd ACR, plays blocks with young Enis, a student at the Steps of Hope school.**

half of the center and the parents of the kids with special needs, I would like to thank you for the attention you are giving to the kids." This was said even before the soldiers literally got down on their hands and knees just to play with the children.

Spc. Ifeyinwa M. Sanders of HHT, Support Squadron, 3rd ACR, sat down with Meris, Maida, and Dimitrije and drew pictures of houses, boats and anything the little kids could dream of.

Spc. Randall T. Prowell, also of HHT, even threw a small football back and forth with a little boy names Enis. Enis' mother, Jasmina Suljagic, was there and was really pleased with the soldiers taking time out to visit and play with the children.

Many of the parents volunteer their time and money to help with the school. With several buildings in separate locations, some of the parents help build, cook, and make crafts with the donations given to the school.

Some of the teachers were in the middle of performing physical therapy with the children. During their exercises the children were full of smiles. They were magi-

cally transferred from one face to the next, from student, to teacher and soldier and back again.

1st Sgt. Terry M. Cullen enjoyed being a recipient of some of Dimitrije's round-house kicks and karate kid type action. For a little kid who came in a few years earlier and had difficulty walking, he placed some well-aimed kicks and punches. Cullen didn't mind the attention either. He and the karate kid were laughing and playing for several minutes.

Some of the children have been coming to Steps of Hope for about four years now and are really responding to the various therapies. Williams said he spoke with some of the teachers regarding the extent of the children's disabilities. "You can really see the progress," he said.

Nermina Kicic, one of the interpreters that accompanied the soldiers, said she was, "happy that we have started helping the school." She believes the school can be helped, "not only by donations, but by education and making friends."

"It's nice to know that you have a friend and with a friend everything is easy," Mahmutagic simply said.

**BONDING BY FUN—Spc. Ifeyinwa Sanders, HHT, Support Squadron, 3rd ACR, joins Dragan for some R & R at the Steps of Hope school.**



**KARATE KID—Dimitrije shows his stuff.**



# CHAPTER CLOSED

by Col. Christopher L. Baggott

68<sup>th</sup> Colonel of the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen

Two years in command of the finest soldiers in the world have come to a close. Yet another chapter in the long and venerated history of this “Regiment of Mounted Riflemen” has been written. I have been blessed to train, deploy and lead the “Brave Rifles” into a contingency theater of operations and do a small part to maintain the peace in the most pivotal region in the Balkans. Thank you for the honor and privilege of command. Now, the reigns of command turn over to the 69th Colonel. Colonel Tony Harriman brings with him a wealth of experience, renewed vigor and the ever-present swagger of a cavalryman. Our Regiment will progress to new heights of excellence under his tutelage.

The 3rd United States Cavalry Regiment has a proud history that goes back more than 150 years. Our first battle streamer came during the Mexican-American War and our last came during the Gulf War. Sixty-seven Colonels of the Regiment forged our unit into the most prolific and proficient combat force in the world. Some of the former Regimental Commanders include:

— The 17th RCO, Hugh Lennox Scott, who later became Chief of Staff of the Army.

— The 27th RCO, Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright, who led the valiant defense of Corrigedor in the Phillipines during WWII, endured the infamous Bataan Death March, and was awarded the Medal of Honor following his release from captivity in 1945.

— The 32d RCO, James Hillard Polk, took command of the regiment following the capture and internment of the 31<sup>st</sup> RCO, Fredrick Weed Drury, during WWII. General Polk later commanded USAREUR, and NATO’s Central Army Group.

— The most famous man ever to command the regiment, the 28th RCO, George Smith Patton, Jr., who later commanded Third Army during WWII.

A few other notables associated with the 3d ACR’s history are

**FINAL FAREWELL—Baggott renders a last salute. (Photo by Maj. Ronald J. Elliott, 49th Armored Division PAO).**



Christopher “Kit” Carson; William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody, awarded the Medal of Honor while a contract scout for the Regiment; J.E.B. Stuart, about whom Robert E. Lee said, “He was my right arm”, following Stuart’s accidental death at the hands of his own men; and last but certainly not least, Army Chief of Staff General Eric K. Shinseki. Earlier in his career, General Shinseki served as the Regimental Adjutant and as Executive Officer of Tiger Squadron.

Let us not forget the brave men and women of all ranks who did their jobs, and in the doing of it wrote the regiment’s proud history. In all, 23 members of the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen have been awarded the Medal of Honor.

The regiment was the vanguard of General Patton’s dash across Europe.

The Brave Rifles provided flank coverage for the main body during General Schwartzkopf’s brilliant thrust into the heart of Kuwait, preventing the escape of the Iraqi Republican Guard during Operation Desert Storm.

Even to have been selected for this command was an honor that no words I can say could adequately convey. I’ve had the singular privilege of commanding what is quite simply the finest unit in the United States Army. My predecessors built and maintained a quality, battle-proven organization that has earned the respect of friend and foe alike – and I’ve been fortunate to have been the caretaker for a season. The significance of our tradition, lineage and history forces us all to achieve a higher level of proficiency and competence. Perhaps it is this heritage that has made us all just a little bit better.

It has been a distinct privilege to participate in Stabilization Force (SFOR) 7. The challenges of preparing for a multinational peacekeeping mission have been high, but the rewards have been awesome. The mission is historic in that it marks the first time in recent history that an active duty maneuver unit has been placed under the command of a National Guard headquarters. Quite frankly, the lethal combination of the 49th Armored Division coupled with the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment has proven to be phenomenal. This force structure’s success was no surprise to those of us who worked so hard in preparation for it. Maj. Gen. Halverson’s “Lone Star” Division Headquarters has performed magnificently. The concept works, and works well. It has indeed been my privilege to have been a part of this organization, with this mission, in this theater of operations.





# 4/3 ACR FIRE POWER



Photos by Spc. Shane Devine  
65th PCH, Eagle Base



**ON DISPLAY**—Quicksilver Troop, 4/3 ACR Apache gunships with crews flank mass formation at Glamoc prior to Live Fire exercise. The exercise included troops from United States, United Kingdom, Canada and the Netherlands (above).

**JOB WELL DONE**—Pilots and crews with Lt. Col. B. Shannon Davis, Commander of Stetson Troop, 4/3 ACR, with certificate presented by Brig. Gen. Rein van Vels (with red beret) Danish Commander of MND (SW) (left).

**READY!**—Sgt. Robert L. Lowry loads target practice rockets into the pod of Apache 967, Quicksilver Troop, 4/3 ACR, prior to the flight to Glamoc (lower left).



**FIRE!**—AH-64 Apache 967, piloted by CW3 Christian J. O'Neil and gunner Capt. Harold D. Hooks, Quicksilver Troop, 4/3 ACR fires a target practice rocket at the Glamoc impact area (below).







**PRESENT ARMS**—The units represent all of 3rd ACR and attached units in Bosnia (above left and center). (Above left photo by Maj. Ronald J. Elliott, 49th AD PAO).

**THE COLORS**—The regimental colors are passed from the outgoing commander to the commanding general, who passes them to the incoming commander, thus recognizing the change of command (left).

**PASS IN REVIEW**—The assembled units are reviewed by Maj. Gen. Robert L. Halverson, with Col. Christopher L. Baggott and Col. Tony W. Harriman, with Maj. Paul Welsch, Ceremony Adjutant (below). (Photo by Maj. Ronald J. Elliott, 49th AD PAO).



# THE END

**Story and Photos**  
by Pfc. Jessica E. Revell  
102<sup>nd</sup> MPAD, Eagle Base

The historic colors of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (ACR) were passed last week from the 68th Colonel of the Regiment to the 69th Colonel.

"Colonel Tony Harriman brings with him a wealth of experience, renewed vigor and the ever-present swagger of a cavalryman. Our Regiment will progress to new heights of excellence under his tutelage," said outgoing commander of the 3rd ACR, Col. Christopher L. Baggott in reference to his successor, Col. Anthony W. Harriman, who returned to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) to take command of the Regiment.

"You have been here before during IFOR (Implementation Forces), so you know the territory. And besides, only outstanding, tested leaders are selected to command the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen," said Maj. Gen. Robert L. Halverson, commanding general of Multinational Division-North (MND-N).

Outstanding and tested he is, as he has proven himself over the last twenty years. Harriman spent his company grade years in the 2nd ACR. As a major, he served on the III Corps personnel staff, the 1st Cavalry Division operations staff, and twice as an operations officer. As a lieutenant colonel, he commanded 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, from 1995 to 1997. The 4th Cavalry Regiment was attached to 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division (AD) for the duration of the IFOR deployment to BiH from 1995 to 1996. Most recently, Harriman served on the 1st Infantry Division operations staff and on the Army Staff in the training directorate.





# OF AN ERA

During a change of command ceremony held June 17, Harriman replaced Baggott as commander of the 3rd ACR. Units assembled to represent the deployed units from the 3rd ACR and attachments supporting MND-N for Stabilization Force (SFOR) 7. The Regimental Colors as well as the Saber of Command were passed from outgoing to incoming regimental commander, thus signifying the relinquishment, transfer and assumption of command of the regiment. The Saber of Command is displayed in the regimental commander's office.

Maj. Gen. Edward Soriano, Commanding General of 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson, awarded Baggott the Legion of Merit medal symbolizing his dedication to the regiment.

"Colonel Baggott has a distinguished performance of duty that represents outstanding achievement of the finest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflects the utmost credentials of him and his military service," said Soriano.

Baggott will leave BiH after serving two years as the 3rd ACR Commander. His next assignment is the Assistant Deputy Director of Strategy and Policy, Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Said Baggott, "I leave an organization that has easily been the highlight of my career. I will forever carry fond memories of my association with the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, the fine soldiers of the 49th Armored Division, and all the other units that make up this tremendous force for peace."

The saber has been passed and it is now up to Harriman to fill Baggott's shoes.

"You will carry on this mission with the skill, finesse, and dash that is expected of a true cavalryman," said Halverson.

**HONOR**—Maj. Gen. Robert L. Halverson, with Cols. Baggott and Harriman, gives respect to the colors passing in review (above).

**READY**—Members of the assembled units stand ready for the ceremony to begin (right).

**TWO LEADERS**—Col. Christopher Baggott, right, and Col. Tony Harriman stand ready for the challenges each faces in the future (below).



# GRIM TROOP MAKES IT HAPPEN

1



2



3



4

Captions and photos  
by Cpl. James D. Nunley  
102nd MPAD, Camp McGovern

1. Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Young, 4th Platoon, Grim Troop, 2nd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, gives a pre-mission briefing to his soldiers.

2. Sgt. Michael Deliberti works on getting a vehicle up and running.

3. Sgt. Michael Deliberti (left), and Staff Sgt. Alex Miller try to fix a busted break line.

4. Elements of Grim Troop talk to a local man.

5. Cpl. Dennis Kavaochick mans the gun on patrol with Grim Troop.



5

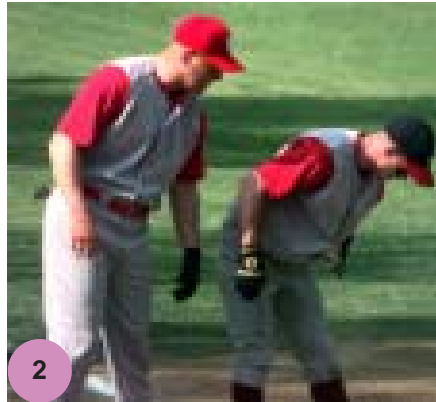


# GET

# SOME



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3



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5



6



7



## 3RD ACR TROOPS WORK AND PLAY HARD

Captions and photos  
by Spc. David Stage  
982nd Sig. Co. (Combat Camera),  
Camp McGovern

1. Sgt. Roger Joyner from 249th Signal Battalion attachment to Camp McGovern makes a base hit on the Memorial Day weekend softball tournament.

2. Staff Sgt. Snodgrass from Eagle Troop coaches Sgt. Ben Phinney from Grim Troop on third base.

3. Sgt. Don Pitts from HHT, 2/3 ACR pitches a strike in the Memorial Day weekend softball tournament at Eagle Base.

4. Spc. Delacruz from Support Platoon, HHT, 2/3 ACR gets help from a quick reaction force section leader to get on the medevac helicopter on Gettysburg Range.

5. A dust-off medevac helicopter lands at Gettysburg Range to pick up casualties during a mass casualty exercise.

6. Sgt. Joel Hewitt of Grim Troop, 2/3 ACR watches as a Russian officer fires



8

the M-2 machine gun at armor targets during a joint live fire exercise.

7. Capt. Juan Pico and Spc. William Kunkler work on a patient that was received at Camp McGovern's aid station during a mass casualty exercise.

8. A Russian soldier coaches Grim Troop's Sgt. Scott Isom on how to fire an AK-74.

9. Russian soldiers watch as soldiers from Grim Troop, 2/3 ACR fire on line with Russian weapons.

10. Squadron Commander Lt. Col. James Hickey gives a pep talk to 2/3 ACR during an awards formation.

11. Lt. Col. James Hickey, commander 2/3 ACR Sabre Squadron, returns a salute after presenting awards during an award ceremony.



9



10



11



**TALKING TOGETHER**—CIMIC team members talk with two recent returnees. Seated from left to right are Capt. Dan Thorell with the Swedish CIMIC unit, Capt. Juoni Nordman with the Finnish CIMIC unit, Hussein Saldic an interpreter for Camp Jussi and Capt. Tim R. Kohn of the McGovern CIMIC team.

## McGOVERN CIVIL AFFAIRS CROSS TRAINS WITH NORDPOL CIMIC

### Story and photos

by Cpl. James D. Nunley

102<sup>nd</sup> MPAD, Camp McGovern

**T**he Camp McGovern Civil Affairs unit cross trained with the Nordic Polish Battle Group (Nordpol) Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC) unit at Camp Jussi April 29-30 in order to learn each others techniques and operating habits.

This was the first of such cross training events, which are scheduled to take place on a monthly basis. The training base will alternate between Camps Jussi and McGovern each month.

"Until today we have stayed in our area. Now we are focusing on cross boundary returns, therefore we are starting joint CIMIC patrols on a regular basis," said Capt. Tim R. Kohn, Civil Affairs Tactical support leader.

"Civil Affairs is responsible for cooperation between civil and military authorities. We work behind the scenes with organizations like the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and Office of High Representative (OHR). What we try to do is to facilitate information around the battlefield and to get people to come back to their homes," said Kohn.

"We are the civil-military liaison," said Sgt. Donald Q. Clark a CIMIC team member at Camp McGovern. "What the military has in abundance is coordinating skills."

Civil Affairs units have the power to help people, to a great extent, but they are very limited in what they can do personally. However, they can relay information.

"If we're doing assessments and see a problem we can bring it up to someone with the power to fix it," said Clark.

It is clear that the Nordpol CIMIC unit operates a little differently.

Their patrols generally consist of two officers in one vehicle. They are not required to go out in full "battle rattle" since their mission necessitates that they work closely with the local population. This gives them a less threatening appearance.

Consequently, the locals trust them enough to invite them into their homes to discuss the situations concerning the local area.

Also, instead of just presenting a show of force, their presence patrols actually make a point of talking to people on their routes in an effort to discern where people need the most help.

Capt. Bertil Anderson, a Swedish officer with the CIMIC unit had this to say about such methods of operation.

"You are no longer just a soldier walking around. You are contributing to the community."

In order to do their jobs effectively, Civil Affairs must make assessments about how well each area is recovering.

Shortage of manpower dictates that they cannot talk to every family in each area. They keep track of a few in each area in order to get a comprehensive overview of the area.

"You don't have to look at the whole picture, just look at little pictures and you get the whole picture," said Clark.

Getting people back into their prewar homes is not always an easy task. Civil Affairs must contend with many problems.

"One of the problems is it's been five years. If a family had to move out of their home and had to bring their 14 year-old with them, that 14 year-old is now 19 and might be married and starting his or her own family. They can't all fit in the three person home they left behind," Clark said.

"Life goes on. It does not stop for war. If it did we would all be extinct."



# MEDEVAC!

**Story and photos  
by Spc. Shane P. Devine  
65th PCH, Eagle Base**

**T**roops from the 1<sup>st</sup> Peacekeeping Russian Separate Airborne Brigade (1st PRSAB) and U.S. soldiers from the Uglevic Coalition Support Team trained together in coordinating troop movements, reacting to fire, calling in air support, applying first aid procedures and air medical evacuation by helicopter (dust-off) just north of Ugljevic, June 7.

The day began when the Russians and Americans formed into a convoy that consisted of three HMMWV'S and two Russian BTR-80 armored infantry-fighting vehicles.

The convoy moved out at 5 p.m. with air cover provided by an OH-58 Kiowa Warrior observation helicopter from Outlaw Troop, 4th Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (4/3 ACR) and an AH-64 Apache attack helicopter from Quicksilver Troop, 4/3 ACR. All coordinated assets hit the start point with precision timing and were on the move with no delays.

While the Kiowa scouted the convoy's route, the Apache remained unseen, waiting for any call to unleash its payload on an unsuspecting enemy.

Then the "enemy" ambushed the convoy. The convoy sought cover and concealment, regrouped and called in air support. After setting up a perimeter and getting fire support from the Apache, a triage point was established. Four personnel were "wounded" and were first treated by soldiers nearest them. After initial treatment, the wounded were carried

or dragged to the triage point where American and Russian medics worked together to get the wounded soldiers stabilized for medevac.

Within minutes, a UH-60 Blackhawk from 1042nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance), Eagle Base, named "Dust-off 666" landed in a nearby clearing about 60 feet from the triage site.

Dust and debris from the blades did not slow down the determined effort. Flight medic Spc. Jason C. Johnson of the 1042nd hit the ground as soon as the Blackhawk touched down. Johnson came right to the triage point and helped with final preparation of the wounded for movement. All the wounded were placed on litters and strapped down for safety and ease of movement. They were then carried to the dustoff and properly secured. Wounded soldiers are always loaded according to urgency.

"The most life threatening wounded are loaded (on the dust-off) last. The reasoning for this is they will be the first unloaded at the hospital and the first to receive possibly life saving treatment," said Johnson.

After all the chaos of the simulated battle, treatment, and dust-off of the wounded, all the soldiers were hot and tired. But there was no time for a break as the day was far from over.

Next on the training schedule was extracting sling litters to a hovering dust-off. Two Russian soldiers were strapped into sling litters while the flight medic repelled down. Moving

swiftly as soon as he hit the ground Johnson double-checked the sling litters. He secured a belay line to the first litter to be extracted so as to steady the casualty on the trip up. Johnson then moved the casualty under the dust-off, through the fierce rotor-wash and flying debris, to hook him up to the cable that would carry him to safety and medical attention.

The flight medic gave the arm and hand signal to crew chief Sgt. Scott R. Doran, of the 1042nd, who worked the winch. The sling litter was then extracted up to the dust-off. The belay cord was then released after the casualty was secured on board the dust-off.

A long day, but still the training had not come to an end. The whole process was to be repeated again that night. Darkness would add another aspect to the training.

There is a solid relationship building here between forces from Russia and the United States.

These missions build that relationship from the lowest level; the ground pounders, the troops in the field, who form a firm foundation for a lasting cooperation which can resist the strongest storm blown its way.

**HE'S NOT HEAVY, HE'S MY SOLDIER—  
Chief Warrant Officer 2 Sean P. Ballard  
fireman carries Sgt. Sean Eppers.  
Eppers was "wounded" during a  
simulated ambush.**



**SKID MARKS—"Casualty" Capt. John C. Kowalewski is  
dragged to the triage point.**



# FALLING PLATE 2000

## TESTS MARKSMANSHIP

### Story and photos

by Sgt. Kevin D. Cowan  
102nd MPAD, Camp Dobol

**F**orty rounds and 15 targets. Easy, right? But it turned out rather tough for some sharpshooting teams from Multinational Division-North (MND-N) which took part in the Falling Plate 2000 rifle competition near Doboj on June 13.

The teams were brought together to not only test their marksmanship skills, but to build interaction between the nations that make up the peacekeeping forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). This competition was the perfect means to do just that.

Although marksmanship was the main emphasis, the competition also tested leadership and teamwork. Each team, composed of one standing shooter, one kneeling shooter and two prone shooters, was required to finish a 300-meter run before the first target could be engaged. These targets, only 40 cm by 40 cm, varied in range from 100 meters to 200 meters out, weighed about five kilos, and were painted black.

"We knew we were walking into their house; we figured they had an advantage because we had never done that before. But we went there to have a good time and we did," said Staff Sgt. Bennie Lentz, team leader for 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment's (3/3 ACR) second marksmanship team.

"It's all fun and games until somebody knocks down all of the plates," said Sgt. Raymond Martineau, 3/3 ACR, after watching one of the teams from the Nordic Polish Battle Group drop all of their plates.

It was at that point Lentz said his team changed strategies.

"If we could just get 13 or 14 of them, we would be good."

The new strategy had the standing shooter fire first at the closest targets. By firing first at the closer targets, the remaining three shooters had time to catch their breath and concentrate on the far targets.

Lentz's team scored 12 knockdowns, which tied them with two other teams for second place.

"We got close with what we did. We did as good as we could," said Spc. Zachary Allen, also on the second fire team.

The rules stated that in the event of a tie, the team with the fastest time would be the winner. A few seconds knocked the team out of third place.

Trophies were given to the winning team and certificates were given to team members of the top three teams.

The Estonian team from the Nordic Polish Battle Group won the event with a perfect score of 15.

The 1st Peacekeeping Russian Separate Airborne Brigade (1st PRSAB) got second place, followed by the 629th Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion, both with 12 targets.

"Catching your breath after the 300 meter run (was the hardest)," said Staff Sgt. Orlando Bonila of the 629th MI Battalion.

Bonila added that the course was really not that bad and overall was fair to all the competitors.

"I had a really good time. I would love to do it again," Bonila stated.

To cap off the fun-filled event, a barbeque was held after the competition for all of the participants at the North Pole Barracks in Doboj.

"The barbeque was a good idea," said Bonila.

He said it was also a chance to see what the soldiers from other countries were like.



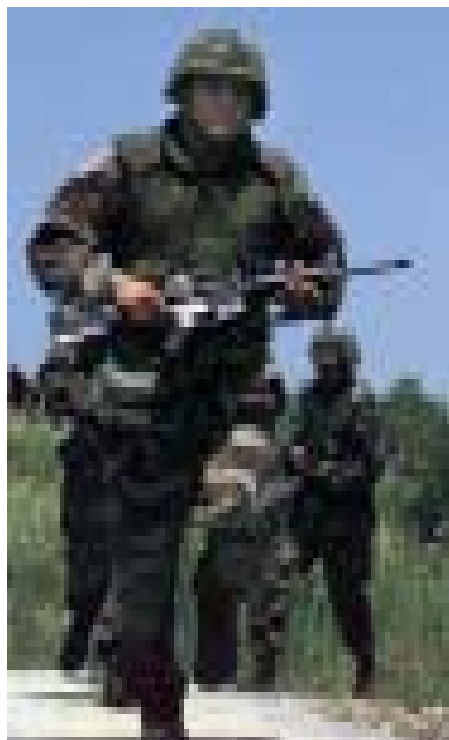
**SHOOTING FROM THE LEFT**—Firing south paw, this soldier engages the targets in his lane during the Falling Plate 2000 rifle competition which tested leadership and teamwork as well as marksmanship.

Soldiers mixed and mingled between each other, overcoming the language barriers as well as they could.

The operation was a success because of the interaction between forces from the different nations according to Lentz.

"Camaraderie is what it boils down to. Camaraderie between everybody that is here (in BiH)," said Lentz.

**FAST AS YOU CAN**—These fire team members begin the 300-meter run before engaging their targets during the Falling Plate 2000 rifle competition near Doboj.



**AIRBORNE!**—Fire team members from the 1st Peacekeeping Russian Separate Airborne Brigade (1st PRSAB) engage targets during Falling Plate 2000.





# EMT: LEARNING TO SAVE A LIFE

## Story and Photos

by Sgt. Kevin Cowan  
102<sup>nd</sup> MPAD, Camp Dobol

One of many skills all soldiers learn is first aid. This basic medical knowledge may become useful someday when it is least expected. There may be a friend, a fellow soldier or a total stranger who needs immediate medical attention.

However, there is a good chance that basic medical knowledge will not be enough. That person may need an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to save their life.

At Camp Dobol, 18 soldiers are enrolled in an eight-week EMT class that will finish with eligible soldiers being able to take the exam for National Registry certification. With certification, these soldiers can return to the U.S. and get employment with various Emergency Medical Services, hospitals or fire departments.

"This is a program that I will definitely

**SKILLS TO SAVE A LIFE—Staff Sgt. Sebastian Hicks prepares to administer chest compressions during the infant CPR portion of the EMT class.**



**PRACTICE IS ESSENTIAL—To maintain an open airway, Sgt. James League uses the head-tilt chin-lift technique. This procedure allows an EMT to assess breathing while minimizing the chance for further injury to the neck.**

follow-up on soon as I get back and do some volunteer work at one of the local hospitals to get a little more hands on (experience) and broaden my knowledge," said Staff Sgt. Raymond Hunt, a 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (3/3 ACR) food service sergeant.

Hunt said he was not interested in the medical field before this class, but with the opportunity to further his education decided that this EMT class was the most interesting.

On the other hand, Spc. Joseph Mulready of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop (HHT), 3/3 ACR is just the opposite.

"I've wanted to take it for a while," said Mulready. He added that he never got around to taking the class as a civilian, but now with the military he has the chance.

Although their reasons for taking the class are different, both Hunt and Mulready agree on the class as a whole and with the way the material is presented.

"The hands-on (training) has been excellent," said Hunt. "The pace of the class has been a pretty comfortable, so you can honestly grasp what is being presented to you at the time."

Mulready shares the same feelings. "I like all of the hands-on scenarios. That has to be the part where I excel the most as far as going from book-work to actually putting it into play."

As for the tests, Hunt said they are hard but passable.

"If you don't study, you won't pass. That's the way it should be. We're talking about medicine and treatment of patients. If you are going to continue in this profession, you have to take it seriously. The tests are hard but they are fair.

It mandates that you have to study."

Although taking the time to study is the hardest part for Mulready, he feels that the instructor, 1st Lt. Jay Hardy, Physicians Assistant for HHT, 3/3 ACR, is a vital part of the class.

"Lt. Hardy is a really good instructor," Mulready said Hardy can tell when a student does not understand and will stop and review that part of the class.

Hardy also has an open door policy with the class.

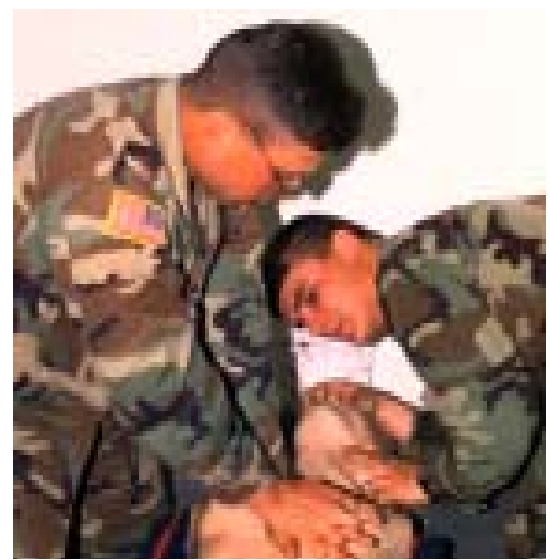
"The open door policy with the instructor has been great also. You can go to him any time and ask him any questions. He encourages it. Whether people take advantage of it or not is on them," said Hunt.

Soon the class will be over and the mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina will be complete. Whether or not the soldiers that took the class put this new knowledge to use is left to be seen.

Mulready knows the answer to that question.

"If I come upon a situation where I need to help somebody, I want to have everything going for me that I can so I can get the job done."

**TEAMWORK IS BETTER—Spc. Anthony Pena (left) and Sgt. James League demonstrate 2-person CPR during the EMT class.**



# FROM GHANA TO THE U.S. TO BIH:

## SOLDIER'S SPOTLIGHT



## COMANCHE CHAPLAIN SERVES A TWOFOLD MISSION, MARRYING ROOTS FROM ONE CULTURE TO ANOTHER

**Story by Staff Sgt. James K. Hunter**  
**Photos by Spc. Stephanie L. Bunting**  
*102<sup>nd</sup> MPAD, Camp Comanche*

Inspiration and spiritual guidance mark the dynamic leadership of Chaplain (Capt.) Joseph K. Blay, Squadron Chaplain, 4th Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (4/3 ACR). Currently assigned to Camp Comanche and the 49th Aviation Brigade Combat Team (ABCT), his pathway to the pulpit at the Comanche Chapel has been a unique and circuitous route. A liturgical minister, one who practices a formal public worship with an established set of standards and customs, Blay has been with the U. S. Army and the 4/3 ACR since June 1997.

Born and raised in Nkroful, Ghana, arriving here at Camp Comanche has the makings of a remarkable story. Blay's first 30 years have guided him on a pathway that influenced him both spiritually and professionally. Growing up in Ghana, West Africa, he was educated in the local elementary, high school, and college education system where he attended St. Andrews College.



**WARNINGS OF HOPE AND SALVATION—Chaplain Joseph K. Blay speaks to his congregation from the Bible on *The Reality of Hell and how to avoid it*, during the Protestant Gospel Services at the Comanche Base Chapel.**

Blay graduated from college in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Agricultural Sciences. He worked for the next four years as a Corporate Executive Officer to the General Manager for the Ghana Railway Corporation. Realizing he liked working more with young adults, a young Blay turned to teaching. For the next four years, he taught high school English in Nigeria. He explained that his experiences in Nigeria, "helped me enhance my interest in working with young people, expanding my view of the world."

As a practicing member of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (AME-Zion) Blay was recognized by fellow members of the Church as an intelligent and motivated educator. He

was offered a scholarship in 1988 to attend Livingston College/Hood Theological Seminary located at Salisbury, N.C. Upon graduation from the seminary in May 1991, he was ordained as a minister. That summer, he was assigned to his first parish, Brown's Chapel (AME-Zion), located at Elizabethton, Tenn., and remained there until 1993.

In December 1993, he was transferred to Bethel AME-Zion Church, Kingsport, Tenn. He reported for his new assignment on New Years Day, 1994. Blay was pastor at Bethel Chapel until May 16, 1997. The U. S. Army Chaplains Corps recruited him during his stay at Kingsport because of his liturgical background with the Methodist Church, and his interest in working with young adults. The military seemed the most likely avenue for achieving his personal and professional goals. After discussing the opportunities with his Bishop, Blay requested permission to join the military. His request was granted and now he is contributing to the spiritual and social development of the soldiers in his squadron and the U. S. Army.

His new career with the Army just beginning, Blay, now a Captain, was assigned to his first duty station at Fort Carson, Colo., with the 3rd ACR. Reporting for duty on June 2, 1997, he has remained at Fort Carson providing ministry to soldiers and family members. With his recent deployment with 4/3 ACR, Blay has been assigned to the Comanche Chapel and its Gospel Service at Camp Comanche, Task Force Eagle, Multi-National Division North (MND-N), Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Blay married the former Miss Marian Yankey in 1986, who remains behind at Fort Carson. They grew up together in Ghana but did not become serious about their relationship until college separated them. Mrs. Blay is a student at Colorado State University in Colorado Springs, and is studying geography and working towards an advanced degree in education. She studied at Teachers Training College in Cape Coast, Ghana, West Africa and later taught elementary school. He says his deployments, "bother her, as it does all wives left behind during a deployment."

The responsibilities of ministry in the military are similar to those of the civilian sector. Unique stresses caused by lengthy overseas deployments, family members left behind, and the loneliness of being away from loved ones are the concerns of Blay. His mission is twofold; first, to administer to the spiritual health of the soldiers and secondly, to mentor to their physical and mental health here at Camp Comanche. Daily routines expose the soldiers and their leaders to imminent danger. The need for spiritual guidance is mandatory if the lives of the soldiers are to maintain a healthy and progressive direction. Blay works diligently to achieve this end.

As for future aspirations, Blay would like to become a Brigade Chaplain as soon as he is promoted to Major. He would also like to become an instructor at the Chaplain's School at Fort Jackson, S.C. He wants to work as a Family Life Chaplain should he decide to make the Army a career. About his career so far, Blay says, "it has been a challenge and wonderful journey for me, marrying roots from one culture to another, integrating and adapting to new environments."